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Special Release

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EASTER MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

My Dear Staff, Students, and the Entire University of Ibadan Community,

I greet you all in the name of peace, unity, and shared purpose. As we celebrate Easter, a period of profound significance for Christians worldwide, I write to you not just as your Vice-Chancellor, but as a fellow member of this great institution, to share reflections that resonate with our collective journey.

Easter is the ultimate testament to the triumph of hope over despair, life over death, and light over darkness. It is a story of sacrifice, resilience, and glorious renewal. As we commemorate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are reminded that for every period of challenge, there is a promise of a new dawn; for every moment of labour, there is the prospect of a glorious reward.

This message of renewal is particularly poignant for us here at the University of Ibadan. As a community, we have navigated complex terrains—from academic rigours to administrative transitions, and the broader socio-economic realities of our nation. Yet, through it all, the First and the Best has remained standing, resilient, and unwavering in its commitment to its founding vision. The Easter period calls us to embrace this spirit of resilience. It asks us to bury the seeds of discord, fatigue, and division, and to rise together in a renewed commitment to excellence, mutual respect, and collective progress.

To our dedicated academic staff, I thank you for your relentless pursuit of knowledge and your commitment to moulding the next generation of leaders. Your labour is the bedrock upon which this institution's legacy is built. **To our hardworking administrative and technical staff**, I acknowledge your indispensable role in ensuring our university remains functional, safe, and conducive to learning. **To our vibrant students**, you are the heartbeat of this institution. I encourage you to use this period for introspection, to recharge your spirit, and to return with a renewed focus on your academic pursuits and character development.

Let us use this season to recommit to the values that define us as a premier institution: integrity, scholarship, service, and community. Let us extend a hand of fellowship to one another, showing empathy to those who are struggling and celebrating with those who are joyful. In our diversity of faiths, cultures, and backgrounds, let us find strength and unity.

As we break for the Easter holidays, I urge all members of our community to travel safely, celebrate responsibly, and remember to be vigilant about our security and well-being. Let us also keep in our prayers the peace, stability, and prosperity of our dear nation, Nigeria, and of our beloved University.

May the joy, hope, and peace of the Risen Lord fill your homes and hearts today and always.

On behalf of the Senate, Management, and my family, I wish you a happy and blessed Easter celebration.

Thank you, and God bless the University of Ibadan.

Prof. K. O. Adebowale, *mbi, FAS, fspsp*
Vice-Chancellor